




Go West
FILM FESTIVAL
GREELEY, COLORADO

NOVEMBER 6 * 11 2023



This year the Go West Film Festival lost Monica and Bob Kahn, two of our longest serving and most enthusiastic board members. We are dedicating the 2023 festival in their name. They cannot be replaced, but they will be remembered.

A tribute to Bob and Monica appears on the festival website at www.gowestfilmfest.org/InMemoriam

WELCOME

to Greeley's 9th Annual Go West Film Festival!

Celebrating the spirit of the American West through classic and contemporary film. Admission is free, but open seating is limited. Mosey in early to choose your seat!

Each screening is followed by a moderated audience discussion of the movie. Feel free to linger, listen, and share your thoughts about the film!

Join us for two receptions during the festival!

Wednesday Nov. 8, 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.
at the Kress Cinema and Lounge:
"Once Upon a Time in Greeley." A community night sponsored by *Greeley Lifestyle* magazine prior to the screening of *Once Upon a Time in Hollywood*. Social hour with light appetizers and cash bar.

Friday Nov. 10, 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. at L I N C: Social hour preceding the screening of *Savage*. Meet Clayton Savage and his wife Cat, along with director Morgan Law at a reception sponsored by The Greeley Stampede.

Visit our website for additional information: library resources, military veterans and westerns, television westerns, film reviews, an overview of the festival, and more:

www.gowestfilmfest.org

On our website you can also make tax deductible donations to Go West via PayPal. Go West Film Festival is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization.

Go West Film Festival Board of Directors

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Interested in volunteering?

Contact us at
howdy@gowestfilmfest.org

MONDAY Nov. 6



ONE SKY ABOVE US 1996

High Noon 12 p.m.

L I N C
508 8th Ave.

Directed by: Stephen Ives
Narrated by: Peter Coyote
1'04" NR

Producer Ken Burns offers a gripping account of the transition from the Old West to a modern way of life. Touching personal stories enrich the film's vivid accounts of sweeping historic events, including the emergence of a movie industry that leaves Hollywood's imprint on how the world views the West.

Screened together with

BOUNTY FOR BERNADETTE 2023

Directed by: Andreas Elsener
Starring: Chantal Dubs
18" NR

Follow Bernadette as she pulls her sled through snowy mountains in search of an outlaw with a big reward on his head. But she's interested in more than just cash. The "snow western" first became prominent with *The Grand Silence*, shot in the Alps in 1968. Filmed in Switzerland, Elsener's new dialog-free twist on this sub-genre reminds us that silence and snow are equally chilling, whether in Davos or in Durango.

DUEL IN THE SUN 1946

Evening 6:30 p.m.

Kress Cinema and Lounge
817 8th Ave.

Directed by: King Vidor et al
Starring: Gregory Peck, Jennifer Jones, and Joseph Cotten
2'09" NR

Pearl Chavez arrives at her adopted home on a vast Texas ranch just as the new railroad is about to invade the range. The alluring newcomer, courted by both of the rancher's sons, is just as disruptive. One brother is an honorable hombre, but the other is quite a cad. A duel in the sun resolves differences, but the participants are not who you might expect.

TUESDAY Nov. 7



LOS BETABELOROS/ THE BEET WORKERS ²⁰²²

High Noon 12 p.m.

L I N C
508 8th Ave.

Directed by: Shari Due
Produced by: Betty Aragon-Mitotes
1'00" NR

In person: Betty Aragon-Mitotes

For generations, migrant workers have been the driving force behind sugar beet production in Northern Colorado. Fort Collins filmmaker Betty Aragon-Mitotes brings attention to beet workers with illuminating interviews and poignant personal stories that emphasize commitment to family, education, and hard work, often in the face of adversity. **In person: Betty Aragon-Mitotes discusses the film in a conversation moderated by Jonathan Alcantar, UNC Associate Professor and Chair of Chicana/o and Latinx Studies.**

SKY HIGH ¹⁹²²

Evening 6:30 p.m.

Kress Cinema and Lounge
817 8th Ave.

Directed by: Lynn Reynolds
Starring: Tom Mix and Eva Novak
58" NR

Live musical accompaniment by Rodney Sauer, Director of the Mont Alto Motion Picture Orchestra

When he made *Sky High*, Tom Mix was soaring to superstar status as America's best-known cowboy. In this adventure, Tom tries to foil a borderland smuggling ring. Along the way he rescues a drowning woman in the Grand Canyon. This unprecedented chivalry (Tom drops into the river from a biplane) lays the groundwork for romance, even though the damsel turns out to be the ringleader's daughter. With travel on horseback, by motorcar, and even in a newfangled airplane, *Sky High* covers a lot of ground and gives us some of the first aerial footage of the Grand Canyon.

In person: Maestro Rodney Sauer at the keyboard adds an authentic audio dimension to this restored treasure from the silent era.



WEDNESDAY Nov. 8



TV WESTERNS: BIG SHOTS ON SMALL SCREENS

High Noon 12 p.m.

L I N C
508 8th Ave.

Presented by Victoria Boone, Co-Founder of Go West Film Festival / Librarian, HPLD

Americans have transported themselves from living room sofas to frontier saddles and Wild West saloons since the 1950s. The TV western dominated home entertainment for decades, declined in popularity for a while, and is now galloping back. Join us for clips and conversation as Victoria Boone celebrates the fun of a resilient American phenomenon and examines the reasons for its past and present success.

4:30 - 6:00 p.m. “Once Upon a Time in Greeley.” Community reception at the Kress Cinema and Lounge, sponsored by *Greeley Lifestyle*



ONCE UPON A TIME IN HOLLYWOOD²⁰¹⁹

Evening 6:30 p.m.

Kress Cinema and Lounge
817 8th Ave.

Directed by: Quentin Tarantino
Starring: Leonardo DiCaprio, Brad Pitt, and Margot Robbie
2'41" R

Once upon a time, anybody who was anybody in Hollywood had his or her own TV western. But in 1969, a tipping point year in American culture, the traditional cowboy star was becoming about as uncool as a big white Coupe de Ville. For Rick Dalton, a cardboard cutout cowboy star and Cadillac jockey, trouble is just around the corner. Tarantino shot the film in 35mm, the industry standard in 1969, and enlisted Al Pacino and Bruce Dern as supporting sidekicks.

THURSDAY Nov. 9



JEWES OF THE WILD WEST²⁰²² **High Noon 12 p.m.**

L I N C
508 8th Ave.

Directed by: Amanda Kinsey
Starring: Jeanne Abrams, Joseph Black, and Al Dinner
1'20" NR

In person: Amanda Kinsey and guest Al Dinner answer questions about the project.

Amplifying a historically marginalized voice, *Jews of the Wild West* breaks from stereotypes in its telling of dual stories. The film documents the Jewish American migration experience while also offering a narrative about the Wild West that is both colorful and historically accurate. **In person: Amanda Kinsey and Al Dinner.** *A collaborative presentation with UNC's Michener Library to accompany the exhibit From Haven to Home: 350 Years of Jewish Life in America.*



NOPE²⁰²² **Evening 6:30 p.m.**

Lindou Auditorium, Michener Library
University of Northern Colorado
1400 22nd Street

Directed by: Jordan Peele
Starring: Daniel Kaluuya, Keke Palmer, Brandon Perea
2'10" R

Jordan Peele likes to challenge preconceived notions. His western *Nope* meets that criterion as a Black brother and sister defend their family ranch against alien forces. Overlapping with sci-fi and horror, this never dull bronco ride touches familiar western tropes: struggle, survival, loyalty, and a principled commitment to drive out the bad guys. Peele also adds food for thought about Hollywood, commercialization, and our reliance on technological evidence to understand reality. The familiar "showdown on Main Street" happens as well, but with a distinct difference from Dodge City. *A collaborative presentation with the International Film Series at UNC.*

FRIDAY Nov. 10



INTO THE WILD²⁰⁰⁷

High Noon 12 p.m.

L I N C
508 8th Ave.

Directed by: Sean Penn
Starring: Emile Hirsch, Vince Vaughn, Catherine Keener
2'28" R

Disenchanted with modern American society, Chris McCandless embarks upon a classic road trip through the West, eventually reaching the wilderness of Alaska's Denali National Park, where he sets up camp in an abandoned vehicle. Struggling against the cold in what he calls his "Magic Bus," the young man's journey turns inward, becoming introspective and spiritual. Unexpectedly, *Into the Wild* becomes a cautionary tale.

5:00 - 6:00 p.m. Social hour and reception at L I N C sponsored by The Greeley Stampede.



SAVAGE²⁰²²

6:30 p.m.

L I N C
508 8th Ave.

Directed by: Morgan Law
Starring: Clayton Savage
1'31" NR

In person: Morgan Law with Clayton and Cat Savage

Morgan Law tags her documentary "the relentless pursuit of a dream." Her unshrinking camera and candid interviews combine with the quietly forceful determination of bull rider Clayton Savage to forge a testament to the Western spirit. **In person: Morgan Law and Clayton Savage share their thoughts on screen writing and bull riding.**

SATURDAY Nov. 11



NO NAME ON THE BULLET¹⁹⁵⁹
12 p.m.

Kress Cinema and Lounge
817 8th Ave.

Directed by: Jack Arnold
Starring: Audie Murphy, Charles Drake, and Joan Evans
1'17" NR

Spend part of your Veterans Day with Medal of Honor winner and actor Audie Murphy in one of his best and most unusual westerns. Murphy's terse one-liners and Jack Arnold's taut direction create a level of tension not seen since Gary Cooper's nerve-wracking wait for the 12 o'clock train in *High Noon*.



RIO BRAVO¹⁹⁵⁹
6:30 p.m.

Kress Cinema and Lounge
817 8th Ave.

Directed by: Howard Hawks
Starring: John Wayne, Angie Dickinson, Dean Martin, Ricky Nelson, and Walter Brennan
2'01" NR

Unlike the sheriff in *High Noon*, John Wayne's lawman character John Chance prefers to take his chances with the bad guy all on his own, without the town's help. Dean Martin and Ricky Nelson break out in song in an arresting jailhouse number, and Angie Dickinson has Wayne's number as she flirts with the big galoot in an arresting hotel room scene. Thanks, Howard Hawks, for bringing the 2023 Go West Film Festival to a harmonious conclusion!

THANK YOU

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THE



GOOD FOLK

GUEST PROFILES

Betty Aragon-Mitotes is a Fort Collins film producer. As co-founder of Museo de la Tres Colonias and founder of Mujeres de Colores, she has advocated for the Hispanic community for over 20 years. Meet Betty in person Tuesday, Nov. 7 at noon when Go West screens her third film *Los Betabeloros – The Beet Workers*.

Victoria Boone is a co-founder of the Go West Film Festival and serves as Collection Development Librarian in the High Plains Library District. Recalling her father's love of TV westerns, she enjoys researching one of America's greatest entertainment passions. Join the fun at her presentation on Wednesday, Nov. 8 at noon.

Amanda Kinsey is an executive producer, independent filmmaker, five-time Emmy Award winning producer, and fourth-generation photojournalist. As the descendant of Western pioneers, her personal passion for the Wild West helped draw her and her family from Brooklyn to Denver, where she operates her own production company, Electric Yolk Media. Meet Amanda in person at the screening of *Jews of the Wild West* on Thursday, Nov. 9 at noon.

Cody Kuehl conveys a distinctive perspective of the American West in his paintings, including the colorful art that has appeared on Go West Film Festival posters and program covers. We are delighted to host *American Lullaby* as this year's banner image. Cody's work can be found in numerous galleries and online at <https://artofcodykuehl.com>

Morgan Law was born and raised in the American West. She is the granddaughter of a bareback rider and the daughter of a barrel racer (her mom). Grandma owned racehorses. Morgan works in construction and now in documentary film. Two years in the making, *Savage* is her first movie. Join us Friday evening, Nov. 10 at 6:30pm, when Morgan shares her film and her love of the Wild West in person, along with bull rider Clayton Savage and his wife Cat. Also on Friday, Morgan leads a filmmaking workshop for students at Greeley Central High School.

Rodney Sauer is founder of the Mont Alto Motion Picture Orchestra and a leading expert on music composed for the live accompaniment of silent movies. On Tuesday Nov. 7 at 6:30 p.m. Rodney and his keyboard help cowboy star Tom Mix soar across the screen in *Sky High*. Join us in a conversation about the film's place in the history of the western. Mont Alto orchestra performances can be heard at <http://rodneysauer.com>. **Thanks to The Greeley Stampede for sponsoring this program.**

Clayton Savage continues to ride bulls, though many rodeo athletes in their thirties who have sustained multiple injuries would have given up the sport. Clayton's story, including his indomitable spirit and fierce commitment to a comeback are documented in Morgan Law's film *Savage*. Meet Clayton, his wife Cat, and Morgan Law in person on Friday evening, Nov. 10 at 6:30pm.

Dustin Scott is an award-winning singer and guitarist who performs with the Lonesome Traveler Bluegrass Band. Hear him live on Saturday, Nov. 11 beginning at 6:00 p.m., prior to the screening of *Rio Bravo*, as Dustin adds his talent to an evening of singing stars, both on and off the screen.

PROGRAM BOOKLET DESIGN:

Samantha Byerly

PROGRAM BOOKLET LAYOUT:

Izzy Anderson

FILM/EVENT DESCRIPTIONS:

David Caldwell

Sarah Cornish

SPECIAL THANKS:

Dr. Jonathan Alcantar

Victoria Boone

Greg Driskill

Ryan Green

Austin Lelievre

Tara Rasmuson

Dr. Marc Santos

and all our wonderful volunteers!



TRAIL NOTES



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